GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2370
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2007
MAINTENANCE OF ANCIENT STATUES
Agarwal Shri Dhirendra;Singh Deo Smt. Sangeeta Kumari

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ancient statues of archaeological importance seized in police or CBI raids are not kept properly resulting into damage to these statues;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to hand over such statues to the Archaeological Survey of India; and

(c) the extent of success achieved by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a) No, Sir. The ancient statues of archaeological importance seized by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in various cases pertaining to the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972 are kept in a malkhana which is well maintained by the Antiquity Unity of the CBI.

(b)&(c)Archaeological Survey of India is accepting such antiquities which are confiscated in favour of the Archaeological Survey of India by the courts at the conclusion of the trial.